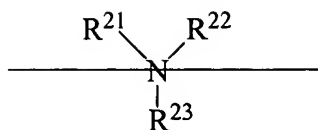


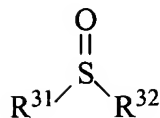
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A photothermographic material comprising, on one side of a support, a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive silver salt of an organic acid, a reducing agent for silver ions and a binder, which is characterized by containing at least one or more ~~o polyphenol compounds;~~ phenol compound as the reducing agent and ~~one or more compounds wherein all of said one or more compounds satisfy~~

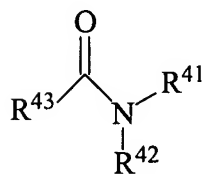
at least one compound having the following requirements A and B ~~A: the compound has a hydrogen bond formation rate constant K_f that is 20-4000, B: the compound and which~~ is represented by the following formula ~~(II), (III), (IV) or (V) or the compound has a phospheryl group~~ (III) or (IV):



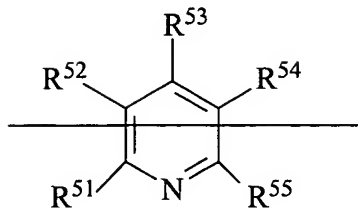
(II)



(III)



(IV)



(V)

wherein:

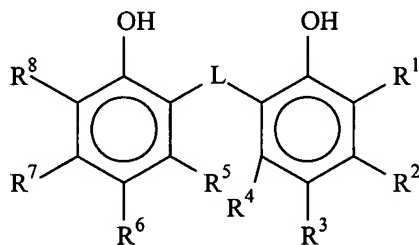
~~in the formula (II), R^{21} and R^{22} independently represent an alkyl group, and R^{23} represents an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and two or more of R^{21} , R^{22} and R^{23} may be taken together to form a ring,~~

in the formula (III), R^{31} and R^{32} independently represent an alkyl group, an aryl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and R^{31} and R^{32} may be taken together to form a ring;

and in the formula (IV), R^{41} and R^{42} independently represent an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, R^{43} represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group or $N-(R^{44})(R^{45})$ where R^{44} and R^{45} independently represent an alkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group, and two or more of R^{41} , R^{42} , R^{43} , R^{44} and R^{45} may be taken together to form a ~~ring,~~ ring.

~~and in the formula (V), R^{51} , R^{52} , R^{53} , R^{54} and R^{55} independently represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent and two or more of R^{51} , R^{52} , R^{53} , R^{54} and R^{55} may be taken together to form a ring.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1, wherein the phenol compound is at least one ~~of the o-polyphenol compounds is~~ compound represented by the following formula I



(I)

wherein R², R⁴, R⁵, and R⁷ are hydrogen atoms, R¹ and R⁸ represent an alkyl group and R³ and R⁶ represent an alkyl group, and L represents a group -CHR⁹- where R⁹ represents a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, an isopropyl group, an n-propyl group, a heptyl group, a 1-ethylpentyl group, and an undecyl group.

3. (Original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hydrogen bond formation rate constant K_f is 70 to 4000.

4. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hydrogen ~~bond~~ bond formation rate constant K_f is 100-4000.

5. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hydrogen ~~bond~~ bond formation rate constant K_f is 250-2000.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the compound of the requirement B is represented by the formula (III).

8. (Original) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the compound of the requirement B is represented by the formula (IV).

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amount of the ~~e-polyphenol~~ phenol compound is 0.01-40 g/m².

11. (Currently Amended) The photothermographic material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amount of ~~all of~~ said at least one or more compound ~~satisfy the requirement A and B~~ is 0.01-40g/m².